

Faversham Port Health Authority

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1937

The area of the Port of Faversham includes Faversham, Oare, Conyer and Milton Creeks all flowing into the Swale in that order from East to West; it also includes the East Swale and part of the West Swale as far as the commencement of the Port of Queenborough.

The total number of ships arriving in the Port (Faversham End) during the year is 673 made up as follows:—

	1936	1937
Faversham Port		
(London and Home) ...	716	664
Faversham Creek		
(Foreign)	7	9
	<hr/> 723	<hr/> 673

This shows a decrease on the figures for last year.

The cargoes from foreign are from cross-channel ports and as far as the Faversham end is concerned are small in amount; cargoes of coal, timber and granite are brought in barges up the Creek, ex-steamer from the Thames.

At the Sittingbourne end there is a much larger amount of traffic from abroad in connection with the paper mills: the local and coastal traffic is much of the same character throughout the whole port: a great deal of the traffic is now carried by motor vessels.

This consists of coal for the Gas Works brought in barges from steamers in the Thames: also some brought direct from the North for the coal merchants: cargoes of petrol, artificial manure, feeding stuffs and corn are brought in barges from London and Essex. Bricks and flints are exported: a large amount of ashes and breeze for the brick-fields are brought in barges: some cargoes of manure for the land come into Oare Creek.

The water supply for vessels is ample and of good quality and easily accessible.

Inspection.—This has been regularly carried on by the Inspector and myself as follows:—

	Inspector.	Medical Officer
Foreign	6	5
Coastwise	257	35

Barges were ordered to be cleansed after carrying London manure. The water supply and arrangements for its storage have been satisfactory in all cases.

No defects have arisen on board ship which required remedying.

There is no passenger traffic connected with the port: cargo traffic is with Baltic Ports and France and Belgium. This is not of great volume: comes in motor vessels direct or indirectly from the Thames.

No rats have been found on any ship and it has not been found necessary to take any special measures against them: rat guards are provided for use if required. All the necessary arrangements have been made for co-operation with the Customs Authorities for inspection of ships having cases of infectious disease on board.

No cases of infectious disease were reported on board any vessel in the port. It has not been found necessary to take any action under the Public Health Regulations as to Food Act, 1907.

Included in the area of the Port are the beds of the Faversham Oyster Company, and also other layings of shell fish on either side of the Swale: no case of infectious disease has been suspected of arising from them.

The necessary tables are appended.

CHARLES J. EVERS, M.D.,
March, 1938. M.O.H.



I.—Amount of Shipping Entering the Port Health District during the Year 1937

TABLE A							
		Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be Defective	Number of Orders issued
				M.O H.	by the Sanitary Inspector		
Foreign	Steamers ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Motors ...	9	929	5	6	0	0
	Sailing ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Foreign ...		9	929	5	6	0	0
Coastwise	Steamers ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Motors ...	77	4696	10	41	0	0
	Sailing ...	587	28401	25	216	0	0
Total Coastwise ...		664	33097	35	257	0	0
Total Foreign & Coastwise		673	34026	40	263	0	0

II.—Character of Trade of Port

TABLE B

(a) Passenger Traffic during 1937

None.

(b) Cargo Traffic

See Report.

III.—Source of Water Supply

See Report.

IV.—Infectious Disease

Arrangements for dealing with cases are detailed in body of Report.

TABLE C

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels

None.

TABLE D

Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival

None.

V.—Measures Against Rodents

Rat Guards are kept for use if required: measures taken for destruction of rats on wharves.

Rats destroyed during 1937

None.

TABLES G, H and I

No plague suspected or infected Vessels arrived at the Port during 1937

VI.—Food Inspection

See Report.

Faversham Port Health Authority

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR (EASTERN SECTION)

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1937.

Your Worship and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report as your Sanitary Inspector for the Eastern Section of the Port Health District for the year ending December 31st, 1937.

During the year 263 vessels were inspected, 6 of which were from foreign ports with cargoes of fertilisers.

The greater number of vessels using the port are barges with cargoes obtained from large steamers in the London Docks. Timber, corn, soda, fertiliser, and coal formed the chief freights. In addition to these petroleum oil and spirit are brought in motor tankers and lighters for the distributing depots.

The principal freights at Oare and Conyer are breeze and manure. The

barges bringing manure have been cleansed as necessary after discharging their freights.

No cases of infectious disease have occurred on any vessel while in port, and the arrangements for water storage have been satisfactory.

No foodstuffs arrived at the port within the meaning of the Public Health (Regulations as to Food) Act 1907.

Rat guards are provided by the Authority for use if necessary.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. G. CULMER,

M.R.San.I.

Port Sanitary Inspector.

20 West St.,

Faversham.

Feb. 15th, 1938.

Faversham Port Health Authority

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1937 AS REGARDS MILTON CREEK AND THAT PORTION OF THE WEST SWALE REACHING ALMOST UP TO RHYDDAM DOCK, WHICH ARE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE PORT OF FAVERSHAM.

I beg to submit to the Town Council of Faversham my annual Report for the year 1937 as Acting Medical Officer for this part of the Port.

The type of vessel using the Creek remains unchanged: the nature of the cargoes consists chiefly of Cement, Bricks, Clay and "Rough Stuff" to be used in the manufacture of Bricks. During the year the Creek has been visited and the barges regularly inspected. Any defects discovered have been readily attended to by the owners without the necessity of issuing Statutory Notices.

The number of Vessels entering Milton Creek during the year was 7045: practically all home traffic:

ships from abroad simply pass through the Port to reach the wharves further along the West Swale.

Motor Vessels: 7. Tonnage: 490.

Sailing Vessels and Lighters: 7038.
Tonnage: 444,420.

Of which 97 were inspected: none were found defective.

No case of Infectious Disease on board has been notified during the year.

Very little foodstuffs are brought into this district, and no article of food has been condemned during the year.

CHARLES J. EVERS, M.D.

March, 1938.

M.O.H.

Faversham Port Health Authority

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MILTON END AUTHORITY.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report of the Milton Creek Area of your Port for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

During the year under review I am pleased to report that on no occasion have I found it necessary to make application or serve notices on the owners of the vessels in regard to sanitary defects.

The vessels as a whole are well kept and clean, and the water supply arrangements are satisfactory, iron tanks or barrels being used for the

storage of water.

Occasionally barges freighted with manure for agricultural purposes arrive, and these are before departure properly cleaned.

As previously stated, very few rats get aboard the vessels, but, when they are found, quick measures are taken to exterminate them.

No infectious cases were reported from the barges during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,
JOSEPH VARLEY.

